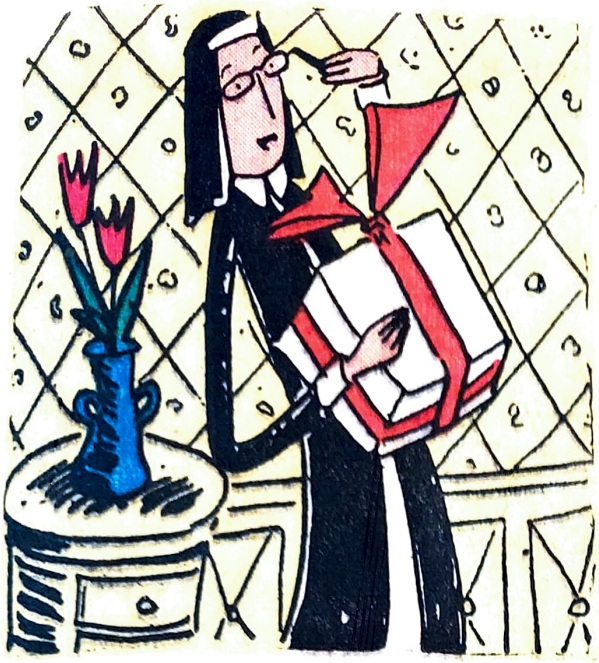
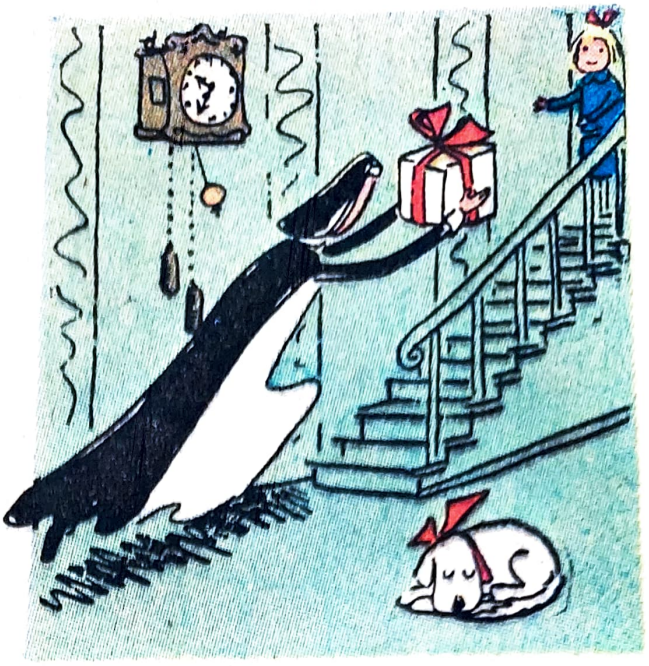
MADELINE and ECLAIRE the FROG

A boy with a package for Madeline
Rang the bell at half past nine.

Miss Clavel
Went to the door
And found the package
On the floor.



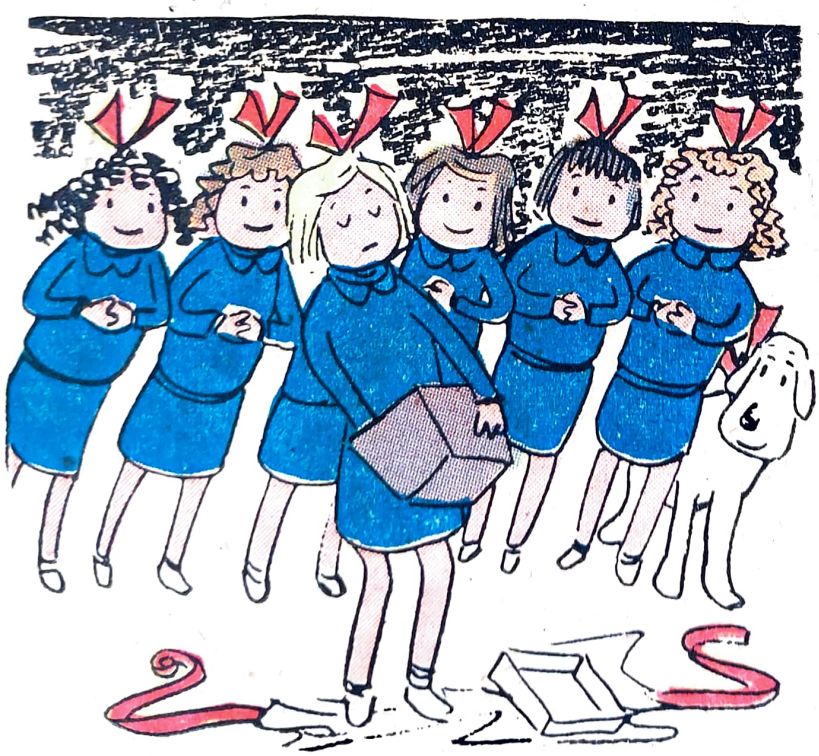


FOR MADELINE
The package said.
The ribbon's color
Was bright red.

Thirty-five minutes
After nine
The package reached
Miss Madeline

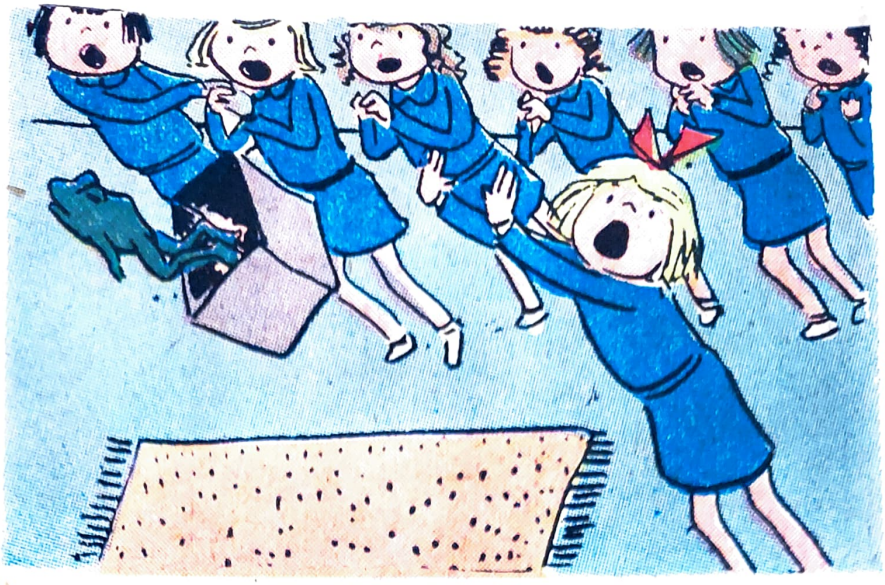
"What's in it?"
"What's in it?" The little girls cried,
And pushed around in a circle tight.

"Please, girls, PLEASE, give Madeline a minute
And she will tell you what is in it!"

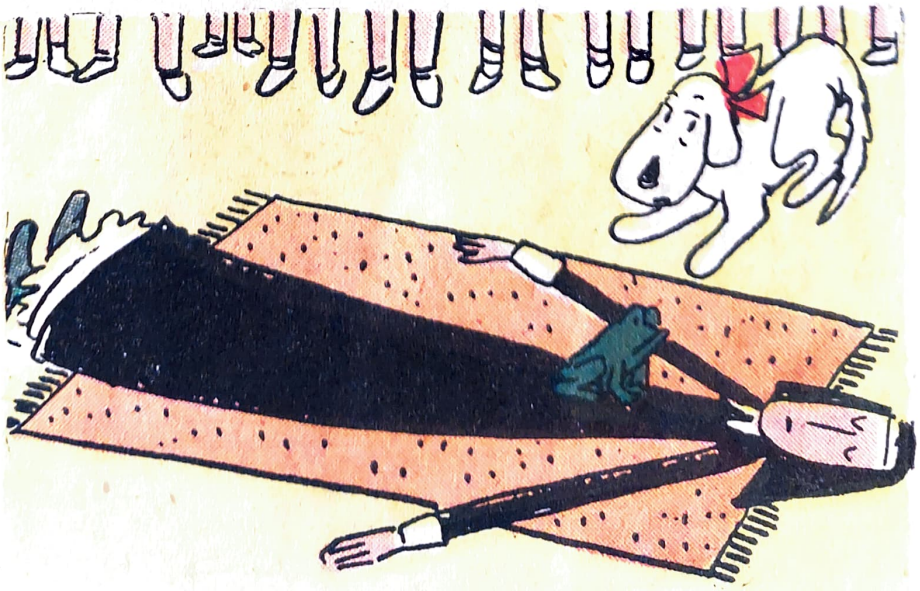


At forty minutes
After nine,
Her hand in the box
Stuck Madeline.

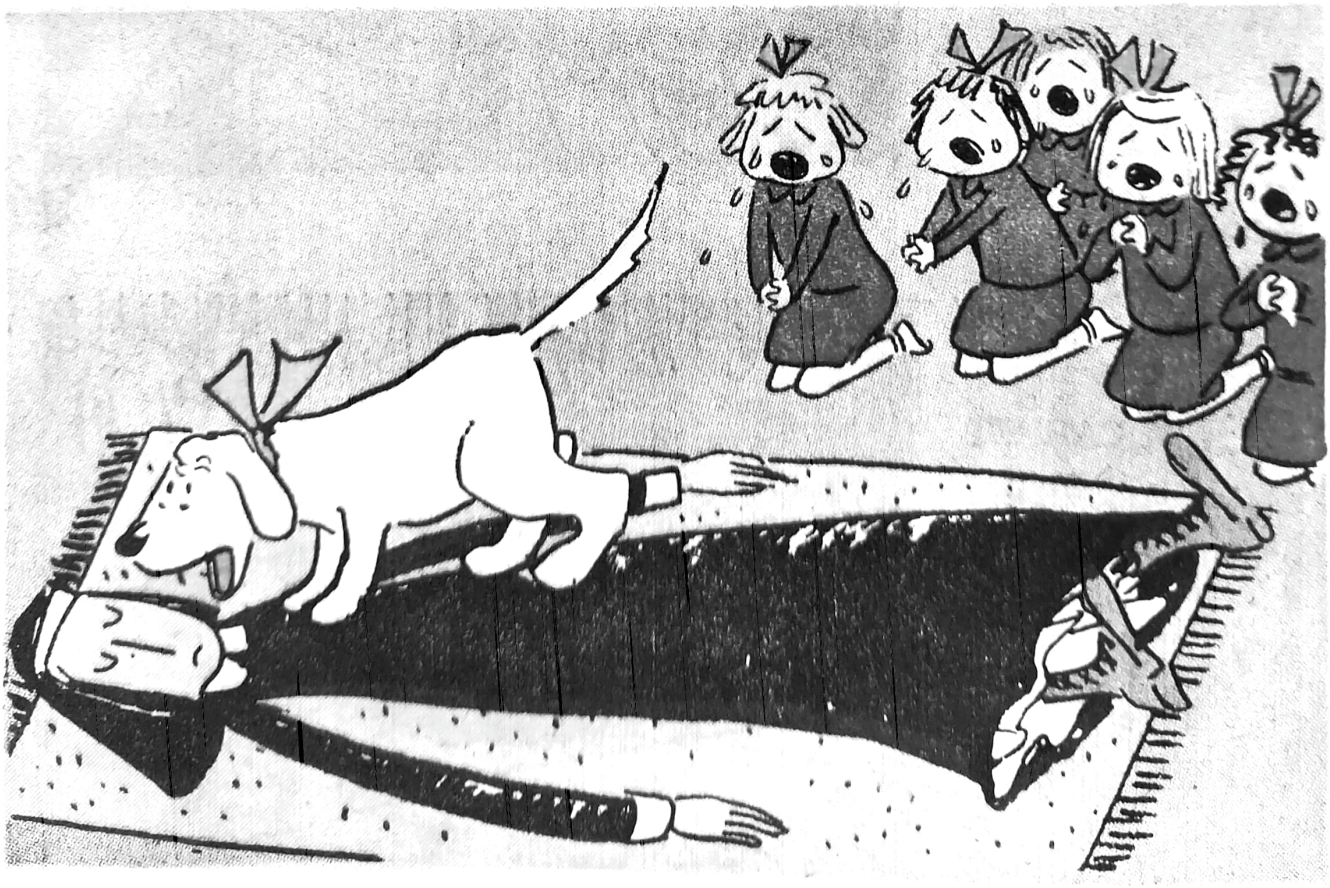
A second
Later
She gave
A YELL. . . .



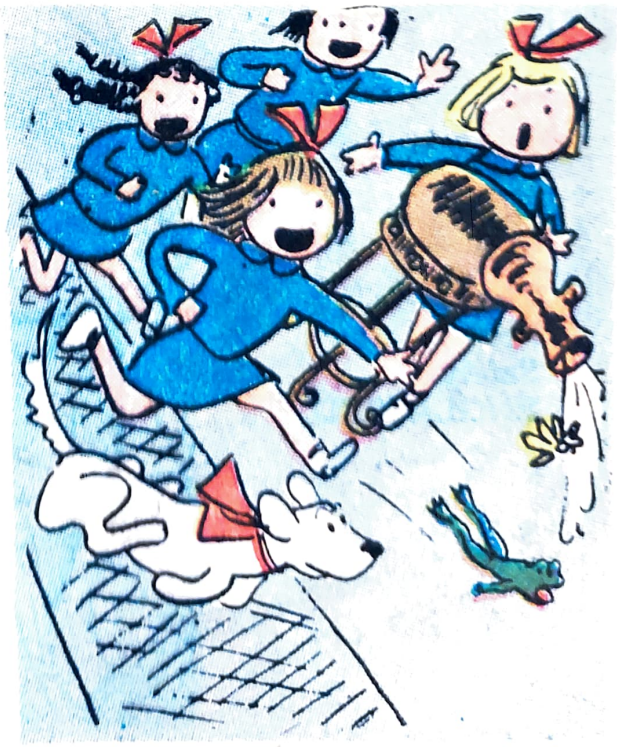
A FROG
Leaped
Out
AT
Miss
Clavel!
Who
Promptly
On
The
CARPET
Fell!

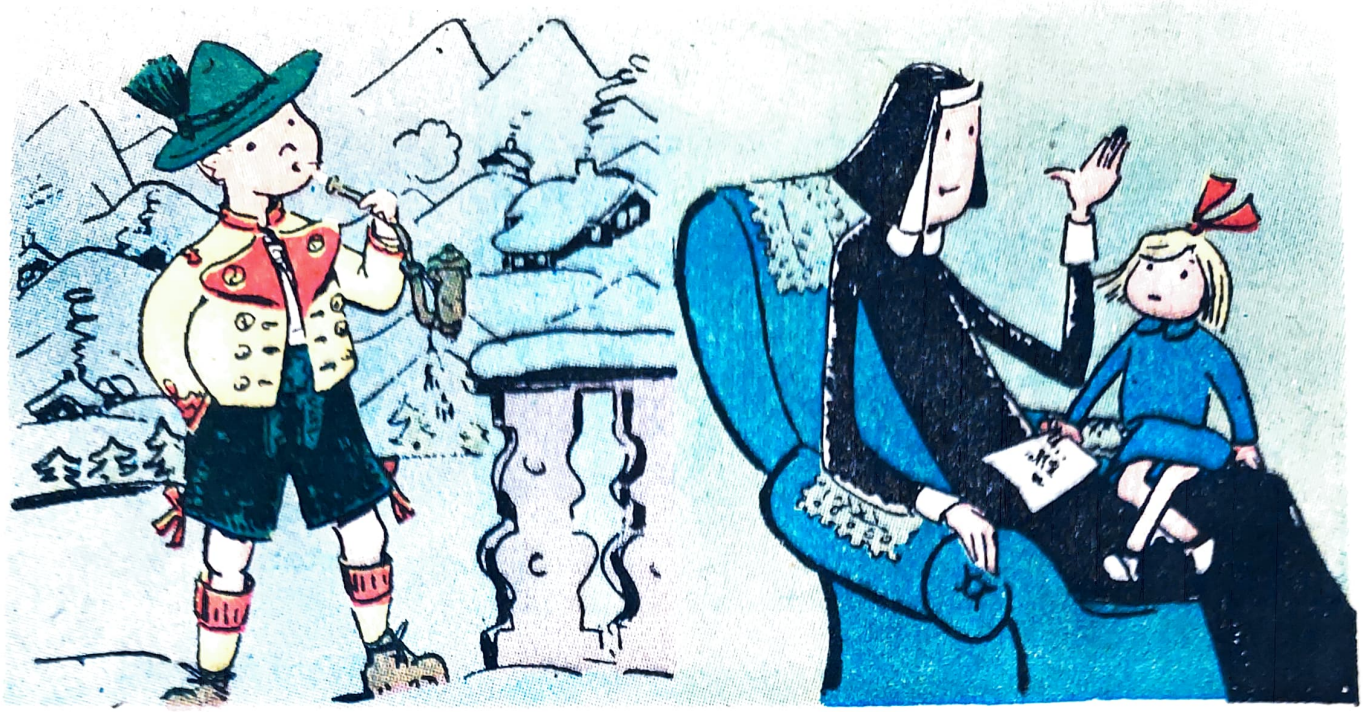


No attention paid the frog.
HOW DIFFERENT—GENEVIEVE THE DOG!



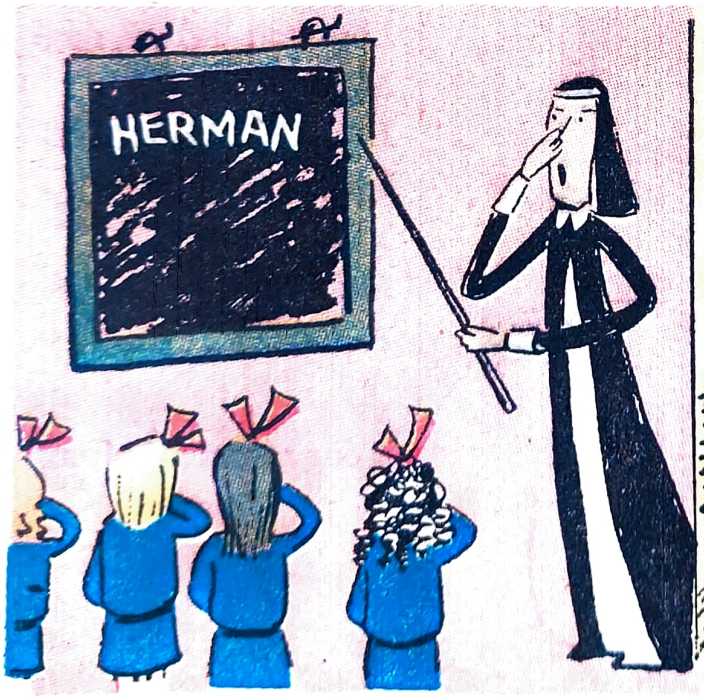
Easily BROKEN in such a melee
Are earthenware and crockery!

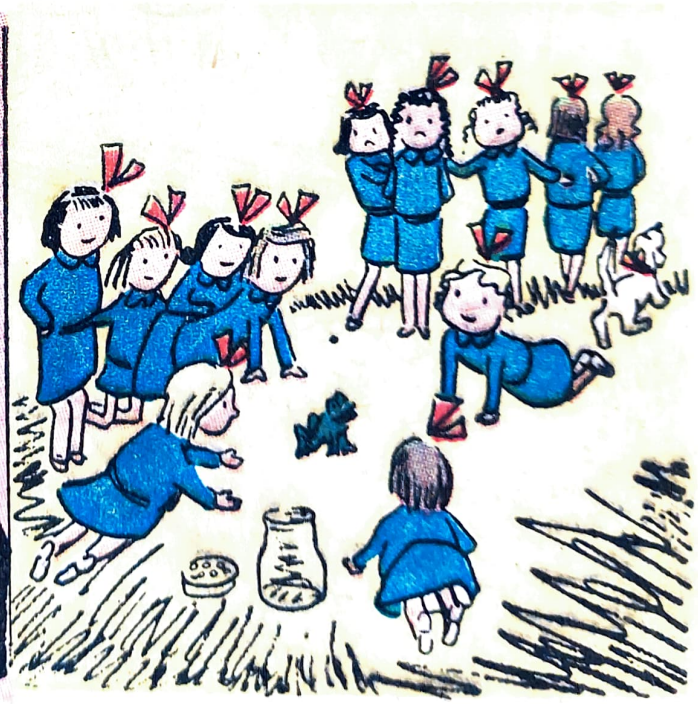




Madeline said,
"Does not Herman
Sound as if the
Name was GERMAN?"

"Oh, I don't know,"
Said Miss Clavel.
"With such names
It's hard to TELL."



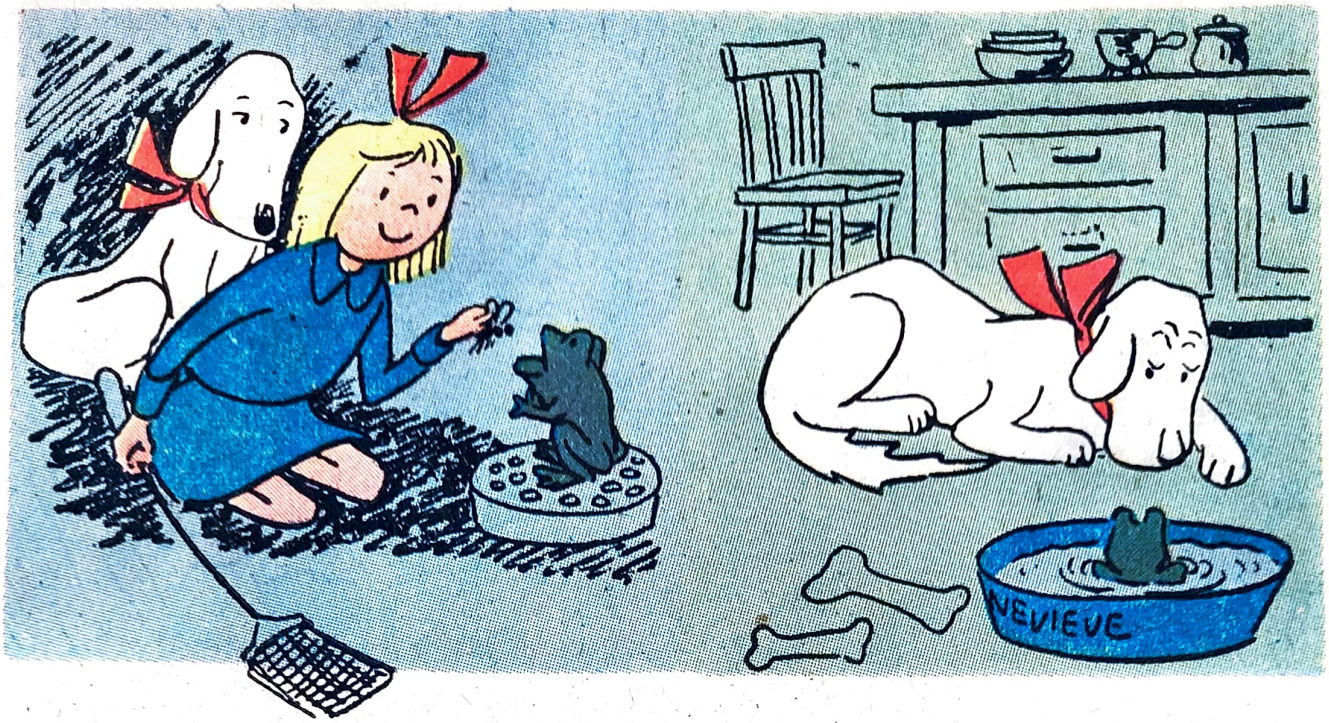


It becomes FRENCH
For all of those
Who pronounce it
Through the nose."

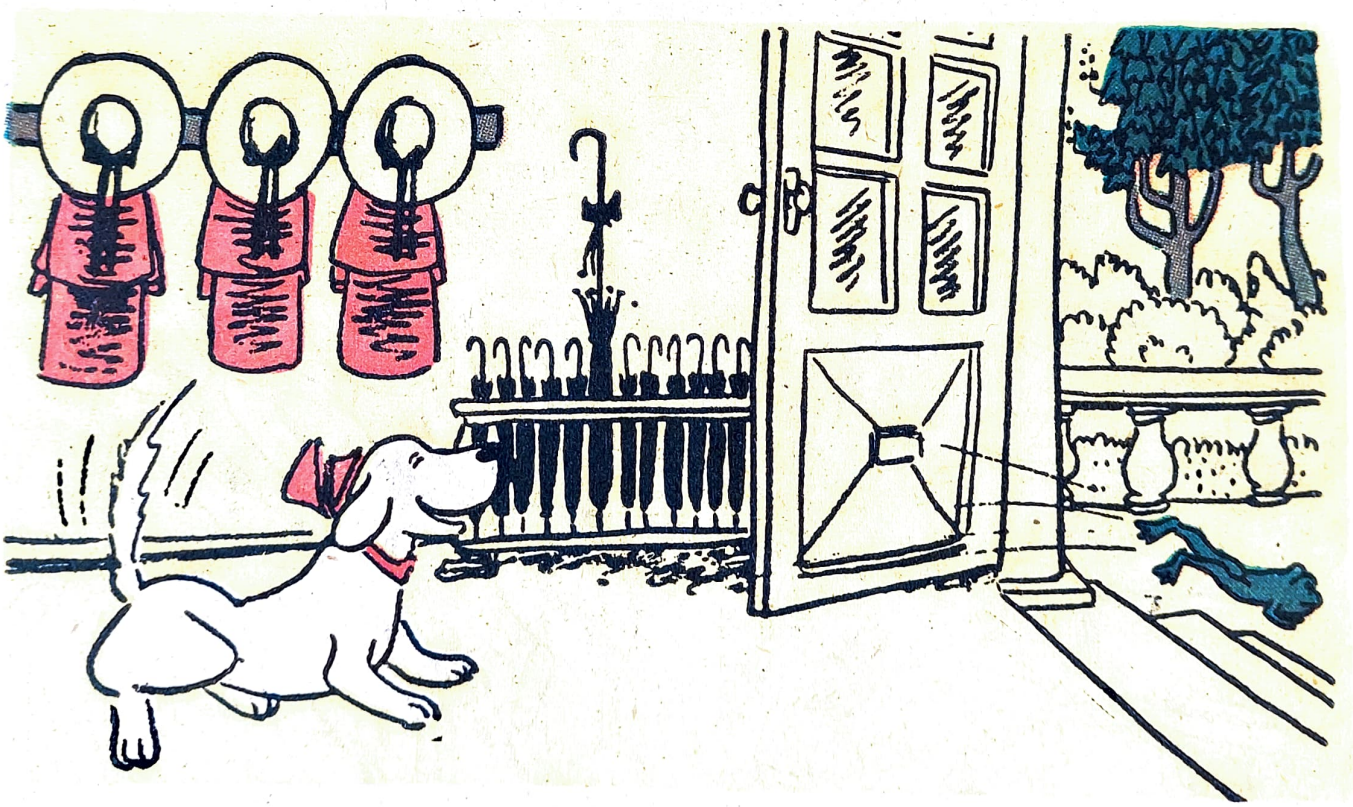
After the surprise subsided
The opinions were divided.
On ECLAIRE some looked with joy.
Others cared more for the boy.

Often on their daily walks
They discussed him in their talks.
Who he was—and all the stuff
About SECRET and UNDYING LOVE.

Time went on with steady pace,
Mysterious HERMAN had no face,
Never showed by sign or line
That he still loved MADELINE.



Madeline loved ECLAIRE the frog . . . So did Genevieve the DOG . . . .



But she barked happily
when, one day,
deciding not to stay,
Eclaire hopped off
and went away.